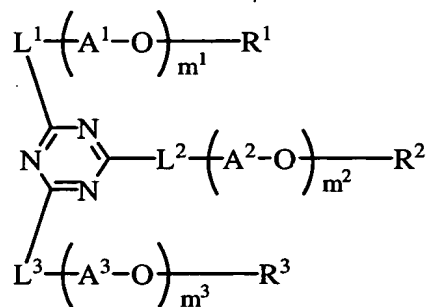


What is claimed is:

1. An optical compensatory sheet comprising  
a transparent substrate and  
an optically anisotropic layer comprising at least one  
compound selected from the group represented by Formula (I):

Formula (I)



where  $\text{L}^1$ ,  $\text{L}^2$  and  $\text{L}^3$  respectively represent a single bond,  $\text{NR}^a$ , where  $\text{R}^a$  is a hydrogen atom (H), an optionally substituted alkyl or aryl group, oxygen atom (O) or sulfur atom (S);  $\text{A}^1$ ,  $\text{A}^2$  and  $\text{A}^3$  respectively represent an alkylene group;  $\text{R}^1$ ,  $\text{R}^2$  and  $\text{R}^3$  respectively represent a substituent group;  $\text{m}^1$ ,  $\text{m}^2$  and  $\text{m}^3$  respectively represent an integer not less than 0, at least one of  $\text{m}^1$ ,  $\text{m}^2$  and  $\text{m}^3$  is not 0, when  $\text{m}^1$  and  $\text{m}^2$  are 0,  $\text{L}^3$  represents NH or S; and when  $\text{m}^1$ ,  $\text{m}^2$  and  $\text{m}^3$  are respectively not less than 2, plural  $\text{A}^1$ ,  $\text{A}^2$  or  $\text{A}^3$  may be same or different each other.

2. The optical compensatory sheet of claim 1, wherein the optically anisotropic layer further comprises liquid crystal molecules fixed in hybrid alignment.

3. The optical compensatory sheet of claim 2, wherein the liquid crystal molecules are selected from discotic liquid

crystals.

4. The optical compensatory sheet of claim 1, wherein  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  respectively represent a substituted or non-substituted alkyl group or a substituted or non-substituted aryl group.

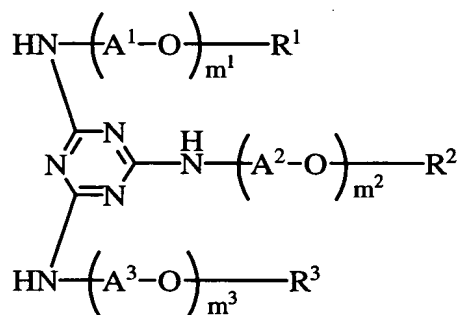
5. The optical compensatory sheet of claim 1, wherein  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  respectively represent a substituted or non-substituted alkyl group.

6. The optical compensatory sheet of claim 1, wherein  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  respectively represent a  $C_{1-30}$  substituted or non-substituted alkyl group.

7. The optical compensatory sheet of claim 1, wherein  $m^1$ ,  $m^2$  and  $m^3$  are not less than 1.

8. The optical compensatory sheet of claim 1, wherein the compound is selected from the group represented by Formula (II):

Formula (II)



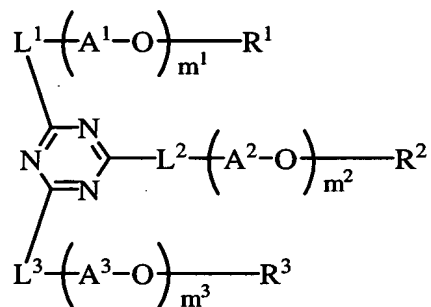
where  $A^1$ ,  $A^2$ ,  $A^3$ ,  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ ,  $m^1$ ,  $m^2$  and  $m^3$  are respectively defined as same as those defined in the foregoing Formula (I).

9. The optical compensatory sheet of claim 1, wherein the

transparent substrate is a polymer film of cellulose acetate.

10. An elliptical polarizing plate comprising  
a transparent substrate,  
an optically anisotropic layer comprising at least one  
compound selected from the group represented by Formula (I):

Formula (I)



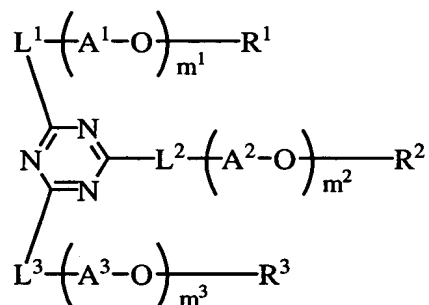
where  $\text{L}^1$ ,  $\text{L}^2$  and  $\text{L}^3$  respectively represent a single bond,  $\text{NR}^a$ , where  $\text{R}^a$  is a hydrogen atom (H), an optionally substituted alkyl or aryl group, oxygen atom (O) or sulfur atom (S);  $\text{A}^1$ ,  $\text{A}^2$  and  $\text{A}^3$  respectively represent an alkylene group;  $\text{R}^1$ ,  $\text{R}^2$  and  $\text{R}^3$  respectively represent a substituent group;  $\text{m}^1$ ,  $\text{m}^2$  and  $\text{m}^3$  respectively represent an integer not less than 0, at least one of  $\text{m}^1$ ,  $\text{m}^2$  and  $\text{m}^3$  is not 0, when  $\text{m}^1$  and  $\text{m}^2$  are 0,  $\text{L}^3$  represents NH or S; and when  $\text{m}^1$ ,  $\text{m}^2$  and  $\text{m}^3$  are respectively not less than 2, plural  $\text{A}^1$ ,  $\text{A}^2$  or  $\text{A}^3$  may be same or different each other; and

a polarizing film disposed nearer to the optically anisotropic layer than to the transparent substrate.

11. A liquid crystal display comprising  
a pair of polarizing films,  
a liquid crystal cell which is disposed between the  
polarizing films, and

at least one optically anisotropic layer comprising at least one compound selected from the group represented by Formula (I):

Formula (I)



where  $\text{L}^1$ ,  $\text{L}^2$  and  $\text{L}^3$  respectively represent a single bond,  $\text{NR}^a$ , where  $\text{R}^a$  is a hydrogen atom (H), an optionally substituted alkyl or aryl group, oxygen atom (O) or sulfur atom (S);  $\text{A}^1$ ,  $\text{A}^2$  and  $\text{A}^3$  respectively represent an alkylene group;  $\text{R}^1$ ,  $\text{R}^2$  and  $\text{R}^3$  respectively represent a substituent group;  $m^1$ ,  $m^2$  and  $m^3$  respectively represent an integer not less than 0, at least one of  $m^1$ ,  $m^2$  and  $m^3$  is not 0, when  $m^1$  and  $m^2$  are 0,  $\text{L}^3$  represents NH or S; and when  $m^1$ ,  $m^2$  and  $m^3$  are respectively not less than 2, plural  $\text{A}^1$ ,  $\text{A}^2$  or  $\text{A}^3$  may be same or different each other; which is disposed between the liquid crystal cell and at least one of the pair of polarizing films.

12. The liquid crystal display of claim 11, wherein the liquid crystal cell is driven in TN-mode.